

# Hunters Point Shipyard Installation Restoration Program Fact Sheet No.10 November 15, 2003



*The site-specific Navy Installation Restoration Program (IRP) currently underway at Hunters Point Shipyard (HPS) includes activities to reduce the risk to human health and the environment from contamination resulting from past military activities at HPS, and to inform and involve the community. This Fact Sheet offers an overview of the history of HPS, and outlines the IRP process and ongoing cleanup efforts at HPS.*

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Hunters Point was operated as a commercial drydock for 70 years, beginning in 1869, before the U.S. Navy acquired the property. From 1939-1944 it was operated as U.S. Naval Drydocks, Hunters Point; it was then redesignated U.S. Naval Shipyard Hunters Point. The installation was expanded with the acquisition of an additional 585 acres in 1957, and continued to serve as a naval repair facility until it was deactivated in 1974. Most of HPS was leased to Triple A Machine Shop, Inc., from 1976 through 1986. The Navy resumed occupancy in 1987, with a number of Triple A's subtenants remaining.

In 1991, Congress designated HPS for closure under the Base Realignment and Closure Act (BRAC), and in 1993, the Secretary of the Navy was authorized to convey HPS to the City and County of San Francisco or a local reuse organization approved by the City. However, a number of sites at HPS contain hazardous materials from past Navy and private operations (investigation of potential contamination began in 1984); and before the property can be transferred to the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency (SFRA) for redevelopment, any required environmental cleanup activities must be completed.

## THE REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA, or "Superfund") established a national program to protect human health and the environment by responding to releases of hazardous substances. Under CERCLA, the HPS property was listed on the National Priorities List in 1989.

A Federal Facilities Agreement (FFA) establishing the procedures and schedule for developing, implementing, and monitoring appropriate responses was signed by the Navy and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), and California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) in 1992. In 1997, the Board of Supervisors adopted a redevelopment plan that provides for open space, residential, mixed use, research and development, educational and cultural, maritime, and industrial uses on the HPS property.

## IRP: FOUNDATIONS, METHODS, AND OBJECTIVES

The Navy's Installation Restoration Program (IRP) provides the planning-and-management framework used by the BRAC cleanup team (BCT) at HPS to identify issues and produce cleanup outcomes that meet CERCLA and BRAC requirements and comply with regulatory guidelines from EPA Region 9, DTSC, RWQCB, and various natural resource trustee agencies.

Potential contamination is evaluated on a site-specific basis, and appropriate actions are determined, through the CERCLA process illustrated on Figure 1. Investigation sites at HPS have been grouped into six parcels (Parcels A through F; Figure 2) for administrative purposes during cleanup and transfer. The result of each site evaluation is a recommendation for Remedial Action, Removal Action, or No Further Action (NFA).

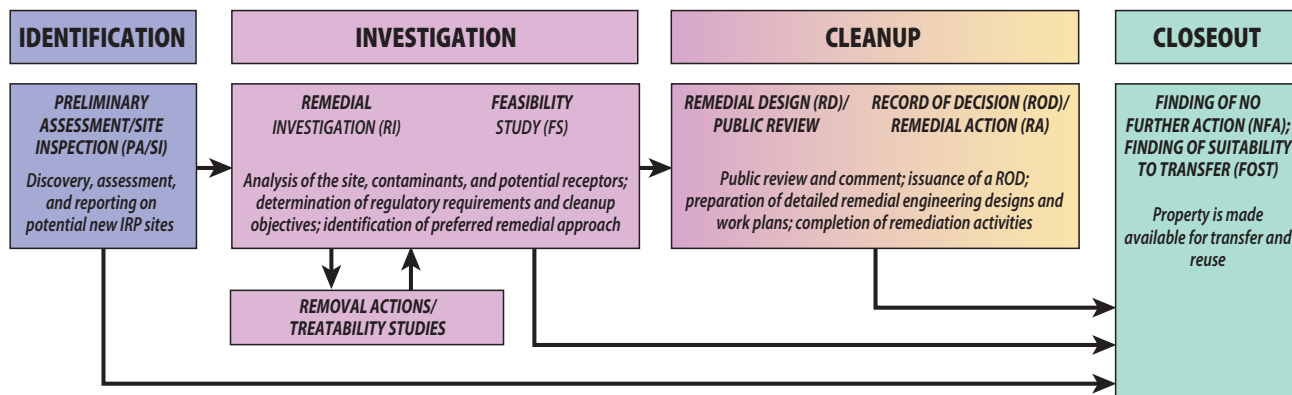


Figure 1. CERCLA Process Flow Chart

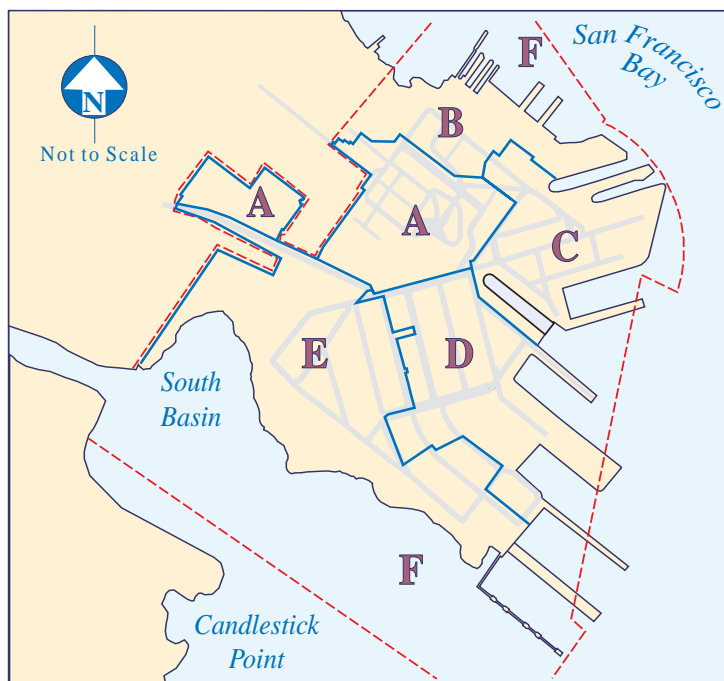


Figure 2. Hunters Point Shipyard Parcel Map

Remedial Action occurs after the preferred cleanup alternative is presented for public review, and a final cleanup option is selected and outlined in a Record of Decision (ROD). Removal Actions are generally interim cleanup measures taken before a final remedy is selected in the ROD. After the sequence of investigation and cleanup activities has been completed, and the remedies are operating properly and successfully, or NFA certification has been issued, the site is available for transfer.

The IRP also specifies or suggests numerous points of contact between the Navy, the local community, and other interested parties during the cleanup process. Community involvement at HPS includes participation in public meetings, information fairs, site tours, public discussions, and reviews of program documents. One of the strongest links between the BCT, the SFRA, and the community is the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB).

The HPS RAB was formed in 1994 to act as a forum for the exchange of information among the Navy, regulatory agencies, and the local community about activities at HPS. The RAB customarily meets once a month to discuss cleanup plans and activities; review and comment on environmental documents; make recommendations to the BCT; and provide the Navy with input from the community. RAB members are urged to share information about HPS with the community.

## PRESENT AND FUTURE

Cleanup activities at HPS are at various stages in the IRP process, with some \$313 million committed to the HPS cleanup effort since 1986. Remediation has been completed on one parcel (Parcel A), and a conveyance agreement is being negotiated between the Navy and the City for this portion of the HPS property. The Navy has performed extensive remediation to meet the ROD for Parcel B, and cleanup activities are being reviewed.

The remaining parcels are within the RI and FS phases. Removal actions have been implemented for some contaminants at these parcels, and several treatability studies have been performed to evaluate the effectiveness of various remediation technologies to treat contaminated soil and groundwater.

As cleanup activities continue at HPS, community members are encouraged to learn more about and become actively involved in the IR process.

*Community members interested in learning more about the IRP process at Hunters Point Shipyard may investigate the following important sources of information:*

The San Francisco Main Library (415-557-4500) and Bayview/Anna E. Waden Branch (415-355-5757) receive copies of most HPS reports, newsletters, and other publications.

The HPS Web site (<http://www.efds.w.navy.mil/Environmental/HuntersPoint.htm>) provides information about the site, RAB meetings, and other items of interest. The site is updated regularly and has links to other IR-related sites.

## List of Contacts for Regulators, Navy, and RAB Co-Chair

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